

MAY 23 2006

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May 23, 2006

**VIA FACSIMILE**

To: Examiner Christy L. Novacek Facsimile No.: (571) 273-8300  
 Group Art Unit: 2822  
 U.S.P.T.O.

From: James E. Howard Facsimile No.: (703) 761-2375 or 76

Re: Enclosed Amendment After-Final Rejection Under 37 CFR §1.116  
 U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/642,667  
 Docket No.: 03186-1/2002-239455

Dear Examiner Novacek:

Enclosed for filing is an Amendment in response to the Final Office Action mailed on April 7, 2006, which should place the above-referenced case in condition for allowance.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration on this case.

Very truly yours,

James E. Howard

JEH/geb  
 Enclosures  
 Total pages transmitted: 15

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Yoshihiro Satoh

Serial No.: 10/642,667 Group Art Unit: 2822

Filed: August 19, 2003 Examiner: Christy L. Novacek

For: METHOD FOR FABRICATING A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING A  
TAPERED-MESA SIDE-WALL FILM

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Box AF  
Alexandria, VA 22313 - 1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 7, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1-11, 13-15, and 18-29 are all the claims presently pending in the application.

Claims 11, 13-14, 18, and 23 are amended to more clearly define the invention and claims 12 and 16-17 are canceled. Claims 1, 6, and 11 are independent.